

JOSEPH STACY MURDOCK

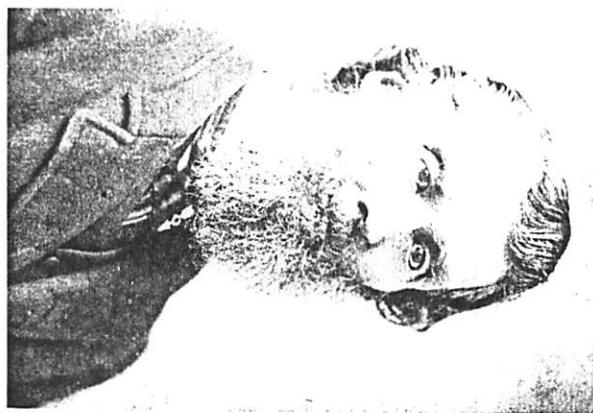
20 Aug 1867 site of 1867 Black Hawk Peace Treaty

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Joseph S. Murdock, first bishop in Helvetia, died a most interesting and dramatic life. He was born June 26, 1813, at Hanover, N. H., in Germany, Spain, Mexico, and Cuba he has labored, and is buried at Memphis, Tenn. in 1880.

Some time after his birth the family started for the body of the Church which at that time was located at Newark, N. J. By this time young Murdock was about 13 years of age. Before starting out with his father and other members of the family, he son- ciated the widow, married Miss Frances Sweet, was a middle-aged lady, who also believed in the new religion, and he proposed to her and they were married. Just prior to starting on their journey for Newark, they were shown in bed in 1842, and met the Prophet Joseph Smith. Old F. J. Murdock turned all his energies over to the Church, and in return received his "immortal" in Zion, under the direction of the prophet.

Young Murdock became well acquainted with Joseph and Hyrum, often sitting under their teachings.

On March 24, 1843, he received the patriarchal blessing under the hands of Hyrum Smith. Among other things, he was promised that he should have a numerous posterity, a very peculiar promise, since the young man had been married a short time and his wife had never borne

